

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 ACDA-12 OMB-01 /087 R

DRAFTED BY IO/ML:MJA?OBS:NEA:NHOWELL:SC
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES
IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL
IO/UNP:JLORENZ
NEA:NAVELIOTES

-----009710 241052Z /10

R 240333Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 307242

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:PORG, UNGA, US, SY, XF

SUBJECT:SARG DEMARCHE ON US VOTES IN UNGA

REF: DAMASCUS 7826

1. WE APPRECIATE REPORT CONTAINED REFTEL AND WILL
WISH MISSION TO PURSUE PERIODIC CONVERSATIONS WITH
KEYLANI ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITHIN THE
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UNITED NATIONS CONTEXT. WHEN NEXT OPPORTUNITY
PRESENTS ITSELF, EMBOFF SHOULD INFORM KEYLANI THAT
HIS PRESENTATION OF KHADDAM'S VIEWS ON U.S. POSITIONS
ON MIDDLE :AST RESOLUTIONS AT RECENT UNGA WERE
REPORTED TO DEPARTMENT. YOU MAY SAY, FURTHER, THAT
THE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A FULL,
REGULAR AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, IN INSTANCES

WHERE THE POSITIONS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE NOT IN FULL ACCORD AS WELL AS IN CASES WHERE WE MAY HAVE SIMILAR PERCEPTIONS AND OBJECTIVES. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS CAN INCREASE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND PROVIDE FOOD FOR THOUGHT EVEN WHEN AN IDENTITY OF VIEWS MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE. WE WERE VERY PLEASED WITH THE OPPORTUNITIES WE HAD THIS YEAR FOR CLOSER DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADOR ALLAF, WHICH MADE IT EASIER

TO UNDERSTAND THE THRUST OF SYRIAN POLICY VIEWS, EVEN ON THOSE OCCASIONS WHEN WE DID NOT AGREE.

2. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT, WHILE BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE VITALLY CONCERNED WITH THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT AND THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A JUST AND LASTING PE-CE, WE BELIEVE THERE ARE MUTUAL BENEFITS AS WELL FROM REGULAR CONSULTATIONS ON A FULL RANGE OF UNRELATED QUESTIONS THAT IMPINGE ON OUR RESPECTIVE INTERESTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE USG WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE SARG POSITION AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE IV ON THE QUESTION OF US MILITARY BASES ON GUAM. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A STRONG DESIRE FOR CONSENSUS WHICH ULTIMATELY PREVAILED, THE SYRIAN CHAIRMAN DID NOT USE HIS CRITICAL POSITION TO PROMOTE THIS. WE WOULD HAVE HOPED THAT SYRIA WOULD TAKE THE MORE BALANCED VIEW FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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3. IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS, WE SUGGEST FULLER CONSULTATION ON THE ENTIRE RANGE OF IMPORTANT ISSUES PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE 33RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SARG VIEWS WOULD BE WELCOME. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, VOTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE307242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MJA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770481-0205
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771218/aaaaaona.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f46a0efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DAMASCUS 7826
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 131105
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SARG DEMARCHE ON US VOTES IN UNGA
TAGS: PORG, US, SY, XF, UNGA
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f46a0efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009